

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-14

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 159373

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:PFOR, PN

SUBJECT:U.S.-PANAMA TREATY NEGOTIATIONS: WEEKLY ACTIVITIES
REPORT - JULY 2 - JULY 8

1. NEGOTIATIONS. PANAMA'S NEGOTIATORS ARE SCHEDULED TO
RETURN TO WASHINGTON OVER THE WEEKEND AND WILL RESUME FORMAL
DISCUSSIONS WITH THE US NEGOTIATORS JULY 11. THE MAJOR
SUBJECT OF DISCUSSION IS EXPECTED TO BE THE ECONOMIC
BENEFITS WHICH PANAMA IS TO RECEIVE UNDER THE TREATY.
DETAILS ON A NUMBER OF OTHER ISSUES INCLUDING EMPLOYEE
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RIGHTS AND LANDS AND WATERS WILL ALSO BE ON THE AGENDA. IT
IS EXPECTED THAT GUARDIA NATIONAL G-3 LT. CO.L CONTRERAS
WILL BE ON THE PANAMANIAN DELEGATION.

2. ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS. SEVERAL MATTERS REGARDING
ECONOMIC ARRANGEMENTS WITH PANAMA OUTSIDE OF THE TREATY
ARE SUBJECT OF EXAMINATION BY STATE, A.I.D. AND TREASURY AT

THE REQUEST OF UNDER SECRETARIES COOPER OF STATE AND SOLOMON OF TREASURY. AMONG THE TOPICS BEING DISCUSSED ARE AN A.I.D. PROGRAM AND A PANAMANIAN DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION WHICH WOULD FINANCE PROJECTS WITHIN THE CANAL AREA.

A.I.D.-PANAMA MISSION DIRECTOR TRAGEN AND TWO MISSION

OFFICERS HAVE TRAVELED TO WASHINGTON TO TAKE PART IN STUDIES OF THE A.I.D. PROGRAM AND THE PANAMANIAN ECONOMY AS THEY MIGHT BE AFFECTED BY THE TREATY.

3. MEDIA COVERAGE. (A) ROSENBAUM CASE -- THUS FAR THE PUBLICITY ABOUT THE HALLA BROWN ROSENBAUM CASE HAS ELICITED CALLS FOR CHANGES IN THE DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY LAW, NOT ATTACKS ON PANAMA OR THE NEGOTIATIONS.

THURSDAY'S WASHINGTON STAR HAD SEVERAL LETTERS TO EDITOR (WITH PICTURE OF DR. HALLA BROWN) DENOUNCING THE STATUS OF DIPLOMATS WHO CAN GET AWAY WITH SUCH ACTIVITY AS PERMANENTLY INJURING U.S. CITIZENS WITHOUT HAVING TO ASSUME RESPONSIBILITY.

TWO WASHINGTON COLUMNISTS COMMENTED FRIDAY ON PANAMANIAN TOPICS. WILLIAM RASPBERRY IN THE WASHINGTON POST DISCUSSED THE ROSENBAUM CASE (DR. HALLA BROWN) UNDER THE HEADING "DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY GONE INSANE" CITING THE CONFIDENTIAL

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BROWN CASE AS A GOOD ARGUMENT FOR A CHANGE IN THE UNITED STATES DIPLOMATIC IMMUNITY LAW OF 1790.

(B) NEGOTIATIONS -- MARY MCGRORY IN THE WASHINGTON STAR DEVOTED HER COLUMN TO "THE CANAL ISSUE: FILLED WITH EMOTION." SHE STATES THAT "FEW ISSUES ARE MORE SUSCEPTIBLE TO JINGOISTIC DEMAGOGUERY." SHE SAYS THAT FOR SOME REASONS PANAMA TOUCHES A RAW NERVE IN THE ELECTORATE. HER GENERALLY WELL-BALANCED COLUMN CITES THE WORK OF AMBASSADORS BUNKER AND LINOWITZ IN ATTEMPTS TO CONVERT GROUPS OF SENATORS AND CONGRESSMEN AND THEIR ENCOURAGEMENT BY THE CHANGE OF ATTITUDE OF SENATORS GOLDWATER AND HAYAKAWA. SHE ALSO MENTIONS MESSAGE BROUGHT BACK FROM LATIN AMERICA BY ROSALYNN CARTER THAT CANAL ZONE IS REGARDED AS LAST ENCLAVE OF COLONIALISM AND STATES THAT PRESIDENT CARTER HAS PROMISED TO TAKE ISSUE TO PEOPLE NOT FEARING THAT REPUBLICANS WILL ACCUSE HIM OF HAVING "LOST PANAMA." VANCE

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